

# “Rivers Run Through It”

## Facts About the Sacramento-San Joaquin Bay-Delta



**Agricultural Value** Average annual gross value of Delta production is \$500 million.

**Area of the Watershed** The system drains more than 61,000 square miles, or 37% of California.

**Area of the Delta** The legal Delta includes 738,000 acres in five counties.

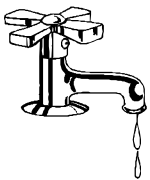
**Crops** The most commonly-grown Delta crops are pears, wheat, alfalfa, corn, and tomatoes.



**Delta Inflow** Historic inflow ranges from 6 to 69 million acre-feet per year; the average is 24 million acre-feet.

**Diversions** Over 7,000 diverters draw water from the system, including 1,800 in the Delta itself.

**Delta Exports** The SWP and CVP draw an average of 5.9 million acre-feet (3.6 million acre-feet for agriculture and 2.3 million acre-feet for urban uses) from the Delta each year.



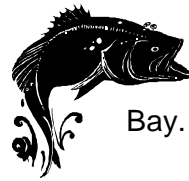
**Drinking Water** All or part of the drinking water for 22 million people (about two-thirds of all Californians) flows through the Delta.

**In-Delta Water Use** Net in-Delta water use averages about 1 million acre-feet annually.

**Farmland** Over 520,000 acres are farmed in the Delta.

**Flora** Over 400 plant species can be found in the Delta, not including agricultural crops.

**Fauna** The Delta harbors about 225 birds, 52 mammals, and 22 reptile and amphibian species.



**Fish Species** There are 54 fish species in the Delta, and a total of 130 in the Delta and Bay.

### Fishery (Commercial Salmon)

About 80% of the commercial salmon fisheries in California depend on the Delta.

**Islands** Rivers and sloughs surround 57 leveed islands.

**Levees and Channels** Over 700 miles of waterways are protected by 1,100 miles of levees.

**Marshes** There are 8,000 acres of tidal marsh in the Delta.



**Size Comparison** The Delta is comparable in size to the eastern seaboard of the United States.

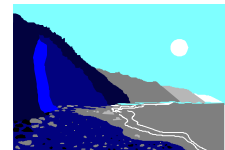
**Subsidence** Some Delta lands are more than 20 feet below sea level.



**Recreation** Recreational use of the Delta is about 12 million user days per year.

**Rivers** California's two largest rivers, the Sacramento and the San Joaquin, mingle with smaller rivers to form the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta. The Sacramento flows south while the San Joaquin flows north.

**Tidal Influences** Each 24.8 hours, the tides cause water to move into and out of the Delta twice. The tides cause a 5- to 8-mile, back and forth movement of water in the western part of the Delta.



*Developed by the CALFED Bay-Delta Program and the Bureau of Reclamation, Mid-Pacific Region, Public Affairs Office, Sacramento, CA.*